

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hill et al.

Serial No.: 10/067,410

Filed: February 4, 2002

For: METHOD FOR FORMING A
SELECTIVE CONTACT AND LOCAL
INTERCONNECT IN SITU (as amended)

Confirmation No.: 8302

Examiner: H. Lee

Group Art Unit: 2823

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-3380.1US

(1997-0842.01/US)

Notice of Allowance Dated:

August 27, 2010

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING
NOVEMBER 16, 2010**

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Notice of Allowance dated August 27, 2010, and sets forth Applicant's comments, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e), on the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the Notice of Allowance.

In the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner indicates:

The primary reason for the allowance is based on the opinion and decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

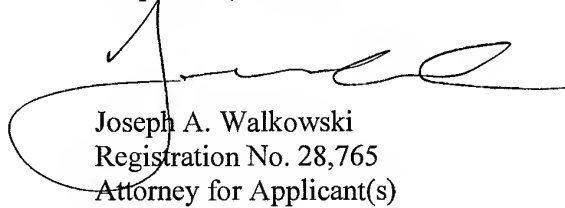
Applicants concur with the reasons as stated by the Examiner with reference to the findings and decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences insofar as they comprise a

summary, which is exemplary and not limiting. However, the scope of the claims is based on the actual language of the claims and equivalents thereof.

The independent claims as allowed recite features and methodology in addition to, and in different language than, those described in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Furthermore, the dependent claims recite elements in addition to those of the independent claims, which are also not reflected in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Such additional elements, in combination with those of the independent claims from which each claim depends, provide additional reasons for patentability. Accordingly, the scope of the claims must be determined from the literal language of each as a whole, as well as all equivalents thereof.

Therefore, to the extent that the Examiner's reasons for allowance as stated are not relevant to, or wholly encompassing of, a particular claim, independent or dependent, Applicants assume that (pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e)) the Examiner has determined that the record of the prosecution as a whole of the application makes clear the reasons for allowing those claims. Further, it appears, pursuant to M.P.E.P. 1302.14, that the Examiner's Statements of Reasons for Allowance are not intended to encompass all of the reasons for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 16, 2010
JAW/nj:slm